



For immediate release  
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### **Rapid Response Team Activated to Aid CHC Industries Employees**

The state has activated its Rapid Response Team to help workers who will be laid off when CHC Industries, Inc. in Kansas City closes.

The Rapid Response team, composed of representatives from the Department of Economic Development's Division of Workforce Development (DWD), the Division of Employment Security, the Full Employment Council and the University of Missouri Project Refocus, responds to the needs of workers who have lost their jobs by providing free training and re-employment services.

CHC Industries manufactures hangers for dry cleaners. Approximately 85 workers will be laid off around the end of September. Occupations to be affected include machine operators, customer service operators, shipping/receiving, purchasing, office support staff and others.

Joseph L. Driskill, director of the Department of Economic Development, has directed DWD to assist CHC employees by offering Missouri Career Center services.

"With labor market conditions remaining weak, we are doing everything we can to help workers that have been displaced as a result of the poor economy or for other reasons," Driskill said. "It is imperative that we assist these workers in finding suitable employment as quickly as possible. The Rapid Response Team offers a number of free resources that can help these individuals find new employment opportunities or learn about training and tuition assistance."

The Rapid Response Team and the Missouri Career Center will provide immediate services to workers needing assistance, including assessment and testing, career counseling, resume writing, interviewing skills, job search methods, on-the-job training and tuition assistance for vocational training or education. These services are free of charge to the workers.

Representatives from DWD are working with the company to ensure that dislocated workers have access to Career Center services. A meeting will be held with workers to explain how these services can help them find a new job at 8:30 and 10 a.m. September 10 at the company's facility.

Employers interested in hiring CHC Industries workers can call 1-800-877-8698.

Since 1983--when Missouri's dislocated worker program was established--more than 100,000 dislocated workers have participated in the program. Approximately 80 percent of the people assisted by the program find new employment.

Laid-off workers interested in the training or re-employment services offered through the Rapid Response team can call DWD at 1-800-877-8698 or Steve Dempsey at 816/691-2242.